

CLAIMS

1. A non-toxic, germicide, fungicide and healing composition in powdered form for topical application to the skin of domesticated farm animals including dairy cattle, 5 said composition comprising (a) finely divided, particulate chlorhexidine-containing material, (b) finely divided, particulate zinc-containing material and (c) an inert powdered carrier, with said chlorhexidine-containing material and said zinc-containing material being present in 10 an amount to achieve effective germicidal activity.

2. The composition in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said chlorhexidine-containing material is chlorhexidine acetate, and said chlorhexidine acetate is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 12% by weight.

15 3. The composition in accordance with Claim 2 wherein said chlorhexidine acetate is present in an amount of from about 0.2% to about 5% by weight.

20 4. The composition in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said zinc-containing material is selected from the group consisting of zinc stearate, zinc chloride, zinc nitrate, zinc oleate, zinc oxide, zinc phosphate, zinc peroxide, zinc iodide, elemental zinc and mixtures thereof, and said zinc-containing material is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 15% by weight.

25 5. The composition in accordance with Claim 4 wherein

said zinc-containing material is present in an amount of from about 0.5% to about 6% by weight.

6. A non-toxic, germicide, fungicide and healing composition in powdered form for topical application to the 5 skin of domesticated farm animals including dairy cattle, said composition comprising (a) finely divided, particulate chlorhexidine acetate, (b) finely divided, particulate zinc-containing material selected from the group consisting of zinc stearate, zinc chloride, zinc nitrate, zinc oleate, 10 zinc oxide, zinc phosphate, zinc peroxide, zinc iodide, elemental zinc and mixtures thereof and (c) an inert powdered carrier, with said chlorhexidine-containing material and said zinc-containing material being present in an amount to achieve effective germicidal activity.

15 7. The composition in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said zinc-containing material is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 15% by weight, and wherein said chlorhexidine acetate is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 12% by weight.

20 8. The composition in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said zinc-containing material is present in an amount of from about 0.5% to about 6% by weight, and wherein said chlorhexidine acetate is present in an amount of from about 0.2% to about 5% by weight.

9. A method of treating skin of domesticated farm animals including dairy cattle, said method comprising applying a non-toxic, germicide, fungicide and healing composition in powdered form topically to said skin, said 5 composition comprising (a) finely divided, particulate chlorhexidine acetate, (b) finely divided, particulate zinc-containing material selected from the group consisting of zinc stearate, zinc chloride, zinc nitrate, zinc oleate, zinc oxide, zinc phosphate, zinc peroxide, zinc iodide, 10 elemental zinc and mixtures thereof and (c) an inert powdered carrier, with said chlorhexidine-containing material and said zinc-containing material being present in an amount to achieve effective germicidal activity.

10. The method in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said 15 zinc-containing material is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 15% by weight, and wherein said chlorhexidine acetate is present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 12% by weight.

11. The method in accordance with Claim 10 wherein 20 said zinc-containing material is present in an amount of from about 0.5% to about 6% by weight, and wherein said chlorhexidine acetate is present in an amount of from about 0.2% to about 5% by weight.